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| APPLICATION NO | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO | CONFIRMATION NO |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 09/913,728 | 10/23/2001 | Toshio Kitamura | 084335-0143 | 3800 |

7800 11/08/2002

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EXAMINER

DEBERRY, REGINA M

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
| 1647 | |

DATE MAILED: 11/08/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09 913,728

Applicant(s)

KITAMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Regina M. DeBerry

Art Unit

1647

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In the event, however, mail a reply be timely, filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply, specified above, is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply, within the set or extended period for reply, will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- An reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-12 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-5, 8,9, drawn to polynucleotide, polypeptide, vector, host cell, method of making the protein and method of screening for a compound.

Group II, claim(s) 6, drawn to the antibody.

Group III, claim(s) 7, drawn to the partial peptide.

Group IV, claim(s) 10-12, drawn to compound.

The inventions listed as Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical feature of Group I is the polynucleotide, polypeptide, vector, host cell, method of making the protein and method of screening for a compound. The special technical feature of Group II is the antibody. The special technical feature of Group III is the partial peptide. The special technical feature of Group IV is the compound.

Groups I-III are directed to products that are distinct both physically and functionally, are not required one for the other, and are therefore patentably distinct. The partial peptide of Group III can be prepared by processes which are materially different from recombinant DNA expression of Group I, such as by chemical synthesis.

Additionally, the DNA of Group I can be used other than to make the partial peptide of Group III, such in gene therapy or as a probe in nucleic acid hybridization assays. The partial peptide of Group III can be used in materially different methods other than to make the antibody of Group II, such as in therapeutic or diagnostic methods (e.g., in screening). Finally, although the antibody of Group II can be used to obtain the partial peptide of Group III or the recombinantly expressed protein of Group I, it can also be used in materially different methods, such as in various diagnostic (e.g., as a probe in immunoassays or immunochromatography), or therapeutic methods.

Groups IV/I-III are unrelated. The products of Group IV do not share a common special technical feature with Groups I-III. Accordingly, the instant Groups are not so linked by the same or a corresponding feature as to form a single inventive concept. Furthermore, PCT Rules provide for examination of one product, one method of making the product and one method of using the product.

Lastly, Applicant is required to select one polynucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:) and one polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:). The polynucleotides and polypeptides in the instant application are composed of different coding regions, different sequences, and/or impart structural and functional differences. Different sequences constitute different products, as was stated above PCT Rules provide for examination of one product.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, separate

search requirements, and/or recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina M. DeBerry whose telephone number is (703) 305-6915. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz can be reached on (703) 308-4623. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9307 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

RMD

RMD
November 6, 2002

Elizabeth C. Bernstein